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Ref. No. 140133
Re: Prof MAKSYMOVICH Mykola Rector of Lviv University and CHER-
NIAVSKY Viktor of the Permanent Mission of Ukr SSR in New York,
at the cocktail party at Dr Kl's house on 6 Mar 1965

Source : assumed ERICHKO

Date : 12 Mar 1965

Viktor Chernyavsky

1. Last arrangements for cocktail party' were made by CHER, who phoned Dr Kl at 15.30 hrs on 5 Mar 1965 telling her that as it had been agreed upon atvtheir last visit to Dr Kl (on 21 Feb 1965) Prof MAKS was coming to her place at 18.30 hrs same day. He apologized for notifying her that late but took no pains to give any specific explanation.

Prof MAKS came together with CHER at 19.00 hrs or so . Waiting for them beside hostesses were Eugen, Prof SHEVCHENKO of Columbia, Prof MOSTIUK of "Slovo", Prof CHUBATYI, Rev SHCHUDLO Mykhailo ,and HOLUBNYCHYI.

Drinks and sandwiches were served and debates started at once. Eugen took care of Cher others surrounded MAKS. The latter was very tactful, polite, tried to answer all questions at least indirectly but kept silent in cases when his reply might have had embarrassing implications for him personally. All the time he stuck to official line though he did not mind to admit that there were many shortcomings in the Ukraine particularly in cultural and political fields. His general tenor however was that things were getting better and better, they (in the Ukraine) were trying to do their best, they were aware that much they were implementing today was insufficient and might be criticized in the future also asf. He enjoyed talking to Prof SHEVCHENKO and HOLUBNYCHYI who were mainly interested in university-matters, curriculum, students, etc.

MAKS seemed to be very satisfied with the party. He was particularly impressed by SHEVCHENKO and HOLUBNYCHYI. The former did not introduce politics though it was impossible to exclude it altogether when discussing university matters and cultural exchange. HOLUBNYCHYI'S participation was more politically tinged. Prof CHUBATYI took small part in the conversation but his pointed interjections on political and religious topics were quite colorful and useful. Rev SHCHUDLO raised mainly religious issues and turned out to be somewhat naive and too emotional or rather sentimental when talking

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faced with people like Cher and Maks.

The party broke up at 12.30 a.m. Dr Kl brought MAKS and CHER by her car to the Northern Hotel and the Ukrainian Mission, respectively.

2. Opinions expressed by MAKS on various topics:

a/ The main worry of Ukrainians was not an official but "passive" Russification of populace. According to MAKS the official drive was not as effective as complacency, passiveness , and submissiveness of some Ukrainian elements to political and cultural impact of Russian chauvinists. He denied however the idea that precisely on the top echelons of the party and administration Russian chauvinistic elements were prevailing and they had deliberately initiated the present Russification policy. In his opinion , "~~KEME~~ party and government circles on the top² in the Kremlin were definitely against forcible Russification.

b/ He did not think that a re-opening of Ukrainian catholic church was feasible at the present . Some prompting on the part of Rev SHCHUDLO to induce him to say more on the topic, MAKS avoided by pointing out to the special committee on religious affairs which is solely responsible and competent on the matter.

c/ Ukrainians were not the only ones who suffered from Stalinism. Russians and even Georgians had their victims. He listened carefully to all the accusations ~~against~~ ^{had} Stalin and the present regime but did not comment.

d/ 20 % of students at Lviv University are non-Ukrainians. One of the means Ukrainian professors use to eliminate non-Ukrainian element from competition on Ukrainian universities is restricting of announcements of vacancies of professorships and lecturships only ~~in~~ local papers. According to MAKS this method ^{had} turned out to be quite effective since final hiring is being decided by University Councils of Professors (Universytetska Rada Professoriv) and no one from outside can impose someone else. At Lviv University they use to announce ~~free~~ vacancies only in Lviv papers and "it was quite helpful". As a rule a Rector must be always an atheist.

According to Maks most graduates of Lviv universities have a clear tendency to remain in West Ukraine and get jobs there. This was just another way to prevent Russian academic element from ~~fixing~~ Ukrainian universities and institutes.

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e/ Cultural exchange on the basis of university-to-university would be most profitable for Ukraine. Otherwise - he indicated - Russian universities ,particularly those in Mosow and Leningrad will be given preference.

3. MAKS stressed again to Dr Kl and others how important it was to visit Ukraine and talk there to competent people. On the side he told Dr Kl that the work she had initiated was very desirable and she should continue in spite of everything. Visits from abroad will tremendously help Ukrainians on the spot and the more emigres will come to Ukraine the better.

MAKS has written down all the participants at the party explaining that immediately after his return to Ukraine he will have a long talk with KOLOSSOVA and will present to her Dr Kl's and others "wishes and demands". Dr Kl pointed out to MAKS and CHER that if KOLOSSOVA and LEVISHCHENKO will continue their silence she (Dr Kl) might drop the whole matter dead.

4. Prof SHEVCHENKO Ihor left sooner than others. After having been told by MAKS that he and his colleagues were received the other day at Columbia only by some clerical staff , SHEVCHENKO got still the same evening in touch with the Rector of Columbia (Kirk) and the latter gladly agreed to receive MAKS and his colleagues next day. He phoned about it to Dr Kl and asked for MAKS who ,however, excused himself from going to Kirk by pointing out that he had to leave home on Sunday and ~~mark~~ his schedule was already full up. MAKS was very impressed with the fact that Shevchenko was able to arrange that fast an eventual meeting with Kirk. On the other hand it was quite obvious that he was restricted in his movements and was unable to decide on meeting Kirk next day. Moreover, Cher showed no enthusiasm for the idea .

5. Prof KOSTIUK gave his address and greetings to convey to a friend of his in Kiev who is a friend of Maks and Prof Chubatyi wrote a letter to his sister in Lviv and enclosed the picture of his daughter. MAKS gladly took everything and promised to convey .

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5. CHER told Eugen the following :

a/ On the Document about the arson in the National Library in Kiev printed in Sloboda: "We read it and analyzed in the Mission and we came to the conclusion that it had been manufactured here, abroad." "It is not true that the KGB has arranged the arson. They could have done it also without an arson, on a purely administrative orderly way". "Also extent of damages has been widely exaggerated - only a part of Vaplite archives has burned down and this will be replenished from duplicates of Kharkov and other libraries". In Cher's opinion it was completely wrong to do such things as the Document and moreover to give it to Svoboda for printing.

b/ If Slovo or the Round Table Club will organize a meeting for KOROTYCH Vitali, he (Cher) will get him here, to New York. According to Cher, KOROTYCH Vitali is a sincere Ukrainian patriot. Also SHPEDKO, Soviet Ambassador in Ottawa is a sincere Ukrainian and he can phone him even today to ask to send Korotych. Prof KOSTIUK promised to arrange a meeting for KOROTYCH and the Round Table was also willing to sponsor it, if necessary. On this occasion CHER complained that ZEANATSKYI was not happy about his encounter with Eugen because he expected to meet some writers and poets.

Prof KOSTIUK asked CHER whether he could get to New York some other Ukrainian poets and writers from Ukraine. Cher assured him that anyone he wants and asked for names: KOSTIUK enumerated a few mainly young ones starting with DRACH, Ivan. Eugen interwined and mentioned also PERVOMAISKYI and MALYSHKO (from older generation). KOSTIUK protested against MALYSHKO and added one or two others (from old generation). In his turn CHER asked about others, from young generation and suggested also DZIUBA.

(N.B. CHER played the role of a great admirer of young Ukrainian writers and poets very cleverly and unfortunately impressed KOSTIUK as a real friend of theirs.)

CHER wrote down all the names KOSTIUK and others wanted to have in New York : DRACH, KOSTENKO, VINHRANOVSKYI, PERVOMAISKYI, BAZHAN, DZIUBA and others.

c/ CHER also suggested that Slovo or the Round Table Club meet with HONCHARENKO, Vice-Director of the Institute of Esthetics at Kiev University. HONCHARENKO just has arrived from Canada, and was leaving tomorrow or the day after for Boston and then for the West. He will return to New York on April 10 and will stay here until 17 April 1965.

HOLUBNYCHYI promised to eventually introduce MONCHARENKO to a seminar at Hunter College and arrange a meeting at his home with emigres.

d/ CHER suggested also that the Round Table Club could invite BAGRIY , a Ukrainian economist employed with the United Nations in New York who would gladly tell them about economic situation in the Ukraine. CHER mentioned that ZAREVO (young ~~xxx~~ melnykivtsi intellectuals) or rather "girls from Zarevo" had already asked BAGRIY to their forum. But he seemed to show no particular enthusiasm for the idea.

e/ According to CHER "pretty soon" there will be established diplomatic relations between Kiev and main Western powers. He refused to elaborate.

f/ Some works by SKRYPNIK are being now prepared for publication. His rehabilitation has not been fully completed as yet. Also other Ukrainian communists of 1920's and 1930's "are being now reviewed in the course of rehabilitation".

g/ KYZIA Luka was nominated Vice Minister of Education of Ukr S.R. CHER could not explain how was it possible to switch him from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to that of Education.

h/ CHER did not think that any rehabilitation of UPA which fought against Germans was possible at the present.

6. "On the side" CHER had a talk with Dr Kl. He complained about arson-publication in ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ Svoboda . His main concern was to convince Dr Kl that no one in Ukraine was doing such things at the present. The Document was a fabrication abroad. Destruction of literature had been done in the past and if there were need to do it this time, the KGB had plenty of opportunities to solve this problem in a normal way. What was the normal way? CHER explained it : books will be nicely loaded in Kiev, records written down , and despatched - let say-for Kharkov. On the way to Kharkov ,however, the train will be stopped, books destroyed, records as well, and the whole matter finished off. After a while Kharkov will ask what happened to the books. The reply will be that the books had been diverted to Moscow on higher order. And then - one thing is sure - no one will ask Moscow about the books. "You know it's not easy even

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to get in touch with Moscow".

The extent of damage as stated in the Document was also exaggerated. Only Vaplite and Pluh archives were destroyed but they will be replenished from duplicates in Leningrad, Kharkov and other places. "Of course, we cannot say send us those duplicates. But we ^{ours}/our way of doing those things. Thus, we send our students to do research in Leningrad or Moscow, and on this occasion he ^{or she} copies the whole book and sends it to Kiev. "

The arson - was ~~xxx~~ an act of personal vengeance. There was nothing political about it.

Emigres' complaints about small amounts of Ukrainian publications in the Ukraine were not justified - according to Cher. " You know what, we deliberately state smaller amounts not to arouse too much suspicion on the part of some anti-Ukrainian forces which are still more powerful than they should be. You see, we can then always diminish in practice amounts of Russian publications. But , of course , we cannot talk about it publicly." " Well it's not easy for you to comprehend it and it's even more difficult for us to explain".

Dr Kl should continue her work along the line of contacts with Ukraine by all means. " When emigres will come more and more to Ukraine they will help us tremendously. Go to Kiev, Lviv, and other places, visit as many people as possible, and everywhere talk only Ukrainians If a teacher or a clerk talks to you in Russian call director or any other supervisor and complain about it. Criticize 'khakhly' talking Russian , teach them to be Ukrainian, help them to straighten up their backbones".

When Dr Kl replied that this ^{would} above all the duty of Cher and his friends by making proper suggestions in their reports to Kiev on the matter, he commented, "You don't want me to cut my throat, do you?"

7. Rev SHCHUDLO wanted to know whether there was any chance to get at least an exarch for Ukrainian catholics in Ukraine in case the government will not agree to a patriarch. CHER replied with the question about the difference between exarchs and patriarchs , and gave no reply to the subject matter itself. At one moment Rev SHCHUDLO pointed out that a recognition of religion by the Soviet government would remarkably strengthen the system itself. CHER liked the idea and commented that he actually was becoming a catholic

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communist. Dr Kl mentioned that he would be not the first one since there were many genuine catholic communists in Italy.

8. Pressed by Dr Kl and Eve why there was nothing coming from KOLOSSOVA, CHER replied that they (in the Mission) had also no communication with her though asked her three or four times for films and other stuff. CHER stressed that one should not jump to any sweeping conclusions because of Kolossova's silence and continue with the preparation of trip to Ukraine.

9. Eugen pointed out to CHER and MAKS that they should drop all connections with "progressives" because they were just a stumbling block for Kiev. Cher replied that they could not do it, moreover that "progressives" were the only ones that stuck to Kiev even at the darkest times of Stalinism. Eugen ~~explained~~ commented that this was just another reason for dropping them since here in the States "progressives" could have done better than just justify Stalin.

10. Asked by Eugen what were the chances to rebuild the Soviet Union into a real socialist Commonwealth, Makis and CHER replied that actually the form of the Soviet Federation was what peoples wanted and there was no need to change it. MAKS added that "anyway, commonwealths were disintegrating nowadays".

11. CHER made some joking remarks about the planned meeting disrupted by Z CZ and SVU, such as : "Well much ado about nothing", "Quite an organization", "Couldn't you do any better?" also.

12. Commenting on a rough landing in Chicago, Ill , MAKS commented that he took it quite easy since he " did many jumps in the past". Asked whether he served with parachutists during the war, MAKS did not deny and nodded with his head .

13. According to Dr Kl ,she found out through Prof SHEVELOV'S secretary that someone like MAKS called privately Prof SHEVELOV and wanted to see him. MAKS confirmed that this was him, and Dr K assured him that SHEVELOV really was on his way to Japan.

14. CHER promised that his wife will come to Dr Kl on 9 Mar to celebrate Women's Day. (She did ,see separate report forthcoming.)

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15. Dr KL and Eve saw MAKS and CHER at the airport on Sunday, 7 Mar 1965 and gave MAKS a small broach~~s~~ for his wife as "a gift from New York". MAKS was full of charm and gratefulness. He stressed again how very much he was satisfied with having had the opportunity to enjoy Dr KL's hospitality and meet her friends. In ten days he will see KOLOSOVA and will try to do his best to convince her that something must be done.

MAKS, in company of 3 or 4 other Sovs, left by Air France around 19.00 hrs. for Moscow via Paris.

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11 Mar 1965

on Martha's suggestion
1. Before his departure for Western Canada K. agreed that he would
gladly stay in the room of SKOCZYLAS Natalia Elehy after his return
to TORONTO for two weeks or so. Together with her girl friend
SKOCZYLAS occupies a two-room apartment at 21 Sussex St, Apt 3,
Toronto 5, Ont. (Tel. 416 927 - 0753) and is ready to give one of
the rooms to K.

We would appreciate your comment and advice on whether it were
advisable for SKOCZYLAS to let K. be accommodated at her
apartment taking into account all the eventual implications for
her personally, and moreover of our involvement through Martha as well.

SKOCZYLAS is US citizen of Ukrainian descent, aged 25, single,
now studying for Ph.D at University of Toronto, Ont in Political
Science. She holds MA degree from University of Pennsylvania and
until Sep 1964 worked as research assistant at Foreign Policy
Research Institute at same University. Her pamphlet on Jewish
minority in the USSR published by the Foreign Policy Research Institut
is now being widely distributed by Jews in this country and Canada
as an evidence of ~~Reaxix~~ oppression of Jews in the Soviet Union.

S's father is a hard core melnykivets, her mother - active
in church work, their address: 2115 Mt Vernon St, Philadelphia, Pa
One sister of S (older) is married to J. Lasowsky in NYC, and the
younger one is student at Uni of Pennsylvania.

As to K. - he is expected to return to TORONTO around 20 Mar 1965.
Our opinion about S is positive, we have no derogatory data.

2. During her visit to Dr KI on 9 Mar 1965 Margareta CHERNIAVSKYI
inadvertantly told her hosts that her maiden name was
LUTSENKO. Reminded of LIUBCHENKO she said that she knew there
had been a famous Ukrainian communist by that name in 1950's

SLU

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no became a victim of the cult of personality. Nor he was exonerated. Margareta was born in Kirgizia, her father died when she was 5 years old, her mother died soon afterwards, and she grew up with her aunt. On the whole Margareta was very embarrassed by "confusing Lubchenko with Lutsenko".

(Report on her visit will follow separately.)